



**Arkansas
Department of
Human Services**



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF

Health

Keeping Your Hometown Healthy

Arkansas Early Childhood
Comprehensive Systems
Initiative (AECCS)

**“Building Bridges-----
From Birth To School”**



Co-Chair Workbook

Family Support –

- **Children's** basic needs (e.g., food, shelter, clothing) will be met by parents/caretakers who have the support and resources to provide a nurturing family environment
- **Families of young children** will be able to achieve self-sufficiency
- **Communities** will engage families as meaningful partners in the development of policies and programs that will ultimately influence their well-being
- **Communities** will intentionally link services, programs and providers to create a strong base of support for families
- **Community** businesses will support expanded family-friendly policies
- **State level** decision-makers will engage families as meaningful partners in the development of policies and programs that will ultimately influence their well-being
- **State policies** will support family self-sufficiency
- Application processes for **state-supported** programs will be streamlined and coordinated

Parent Education –

- All **children** will be raised in a safe, supportive, and nurturing family environment
- **Families of young children** will have access to the training and resources they need to support their children's healthy development
- Multiple **community agencies** will collaborate to provide parenting education opportunities and services which are accessible, adequate, and meet the needs of subgroups in the community (e.g., special healthy care needs, substance abuse, grandparents raising grandchildren, etc.)
- **State policies** will address the problems of access to parent education training and resources for families across the state